

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Graeme John Proudler
Assignee: Hewlett-Packard Development Company L.P.
Title: Method and Apparatus for Managing a Hierarchy of Nodes
Serial No.: 10/688,397 Conf. No. 1309
Examiner: Randal Moran Group Art Unit: 2435
Docket No.: 82170341 Filing Date: October 16, 2003

December 22, 2011

Mail Stop RCE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION
WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Dear Sir:

This Response, which follows the Final Office Action dated September 5, 2007 and the Decision on Appeal dated October 27, 2011, includes:

An amendment of the claims for further examination; and
Remarks offered in reply to the rejections of the prior claims; and is accompanied by:
A Request for Continued Examination.